

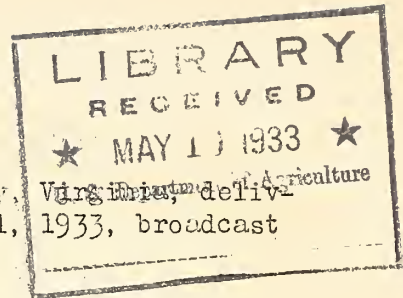
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OUR CLUB MEMBERS WORK TOGETHER.

A radio talk by Sallie Davis, club girl, Bedford County, Virginia, delivered in the National 4-H Club radio program, Saturday, April 1, 1933, broadcast by a network of 59 associate NBC radio stations.



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The good that 4-H Club work has done in Bedford County, Virginia, in developing the head, heart, hands, and health cannot be estimated in dollars and cents.

Eleven years ago a 4-H club was organized in Altha Grove Community. The girls were glad to get together and sing, play games, work, and have a good time. They had never had anything like club work in the community before and the nine girls, who joined the club the day it was organized, were so interested they did not miss a meeting. It was not very long before they began to tell others of the work they were doing, and they, too, joined the club. Our club enrollment is now 22. As soon as the girls in this community become of club age they join the club, and when they pass the age of twenty they transfer into the adult club.

In our first club meetings the first seeds of cooperation were sown among the club members, leader, agent, and parents. These four worked together with their hearts as well as their hands and it was not long before every family in the community was interested in club work.

Clothing was our first project. Seven of the nine girls finished four years of sewing. Certificates were given them at the County Farmers' Conference, where more than 200 farm folks gathered. There was a real commencement with a club prophecy, a club history, and original poems and yells. The girls wore white voile dresses, which they had made at a cost of 80¢ each, black slippers and white stockings. These girls have learned to sew so well that six of them earn their spending money by sewing for others. My sister, Lena, paid her way through the Training School by sewing for people in Bedford and was valedictorian of her class. These girls did not know how to sew when they joined the club.

While the girls were busy learning to make their homes comfortable and attractive on the inside, the boys were learning to remodel and paint old furniture and to make such things as dressing tables and wardrobes from orange crates and to bottom chairs with slunks. Every home in this community has been improved since extension work was introduced. My brother, Dennis, helped my father remodel our home. When the club was first organized we were living in a three room house with a leaky kitchen. We now have a comfortable home with seven large rooms, two halls, and two porches.

Our club always points with pride to the accomplishments of its individual members. Foremost among this group is Miss Edna Davis, who was one of the nine original club girls. She was inspired through club work to become a public school teacher and has taught nine successful years in her home community. She is still an active extension worker and has served as our club's leader since its organization.

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We have learned to conduct our club meetings without the assistance of the agent. At each meeting the secretary calls the roll and each member responds by telling what work has been done to make her room more comfortable and attractive, or what has been done in cooking, canning, gardening, or other club projects being carried. By doing this and by giving demonstrations in club meetings, most of the members, who at first were very timid, have learned to speak in public and to give demonstrations, as we are often called on to do.

The training we are receiving in 4-H club work is not only helping to raise the standards of living in the homes, but it is being reflected in the church and in the school. 4-H club girls are teaching Sunday School, one is organist of the church, six sing on the choir, and one is the church clerk.

Through such projects as "Foods for Health," "School Lunches," and "Appropriate Dress for all Occasions," the health of the school children has been improved and they now attend school regularly. By following instructions in our clothing club we have learned to select, cut, and make our own dresses and when to wear them. Therefore, our personal appearances have been improved.

These are just a few of the results that have been brought about by our 4-H club members working together. In our club we are living up to our motto, "To Make The Best Better."
